# SATIATED FORAGER PRIMER

Dear [student name]

As part of the Skills Studio tomorrow, we would like you to conduct a short observation. It will take about 5 minutes to complete.

You will complete the observation during the class - this email is just to provide you with the links in advance.

If you can't come to the class, please complete the observation anyway (before the start of the class).

About the exercise

In this exercise, we will transport you to a location in Brunswick where a flock of pigeons is feeding.

The video was recorded late in the afternoon near Jewell railway station, a favourite spot for commuters to feed the pigeons. Moreland Council estimates that locals dump 5-10kg of bread and seed here, creating a superabundant daily food source. By the end of the day, many of the birds are completely satiated and have little or no motivation to feed.

Your task

Access the 1-minute video of feeding pigeons at: [video link]

Before you start playing the video, click on the ‘cog’ (Source Chooser) icon and select the highest resolution (2628 kbps).

Start playing the video in full screen mode

1. Scan around the flock and try to estimate the percentage of pigeons that are foraging. There is a lot going on, so this is challenging, but try to come up with a figure that feels reasonably accurate to you. Write down this percentage.

2. Pick out a pigeon in the flock to do a focal observation on. Restart the video and count how many times this bird pecks the ground during the 1-minute video. Write down your count.  Now, pick another bird and go back to the start of the video again. Also record the peck count for this second bird.

Click on this link to enter your data: [survey link]

That's it - you're done!

Thank you!

[course coordinator names]

# HUNGRY FORAGER PRIMER

Dear [student name]

As part of the Skills Studio tomorrow, we would like you to conduct a short observation. It will take about 5 minutes to complete.

You will complete the observation during the class - this email is just to provide you with the links in advance.

If you can't come to the class, please complete the observation anyway (before the start of the class).

About the exercise

In this exercise, we will transport you to a location in Brunswick where a flock of pigeons is feeding.

The video was recorded just after winter, which is typically the most difficult season of the year for pigeons in terms of feeding and survival. About 30% of pigeons do not survive winter; many that do survive experience a significant loss of body mass and must make the most of every feeding opportunity that arises in order to regain condition.

Your task

Access the 1-minute video of feeding pigeons at: [video link]

Before you start playing the video, click on the ‘cog’ (Source Chooser) icon and select the highest resolution (2628 kbps).

Start playing the video in full screen mode

1. Scan around the flock and try to estimate the percentage of pigeons that are foraging. There is a lot going on, so this is challenging, but try to come up with a figure that feels reasonably accurate to you. Write down this percentage.

2. Pick out a pigeon in the flock to do a focal observation on. Restart the video and count how many times this bird pecks the ground during the 1-minute video. Write down your count.  Now, pick another bird and go back to the start of the video again. Also record the peck count for this second bird.

Click on this link to enter your data: [survey link]

That's it - you're done!

Thank you!

[course coordinator names]